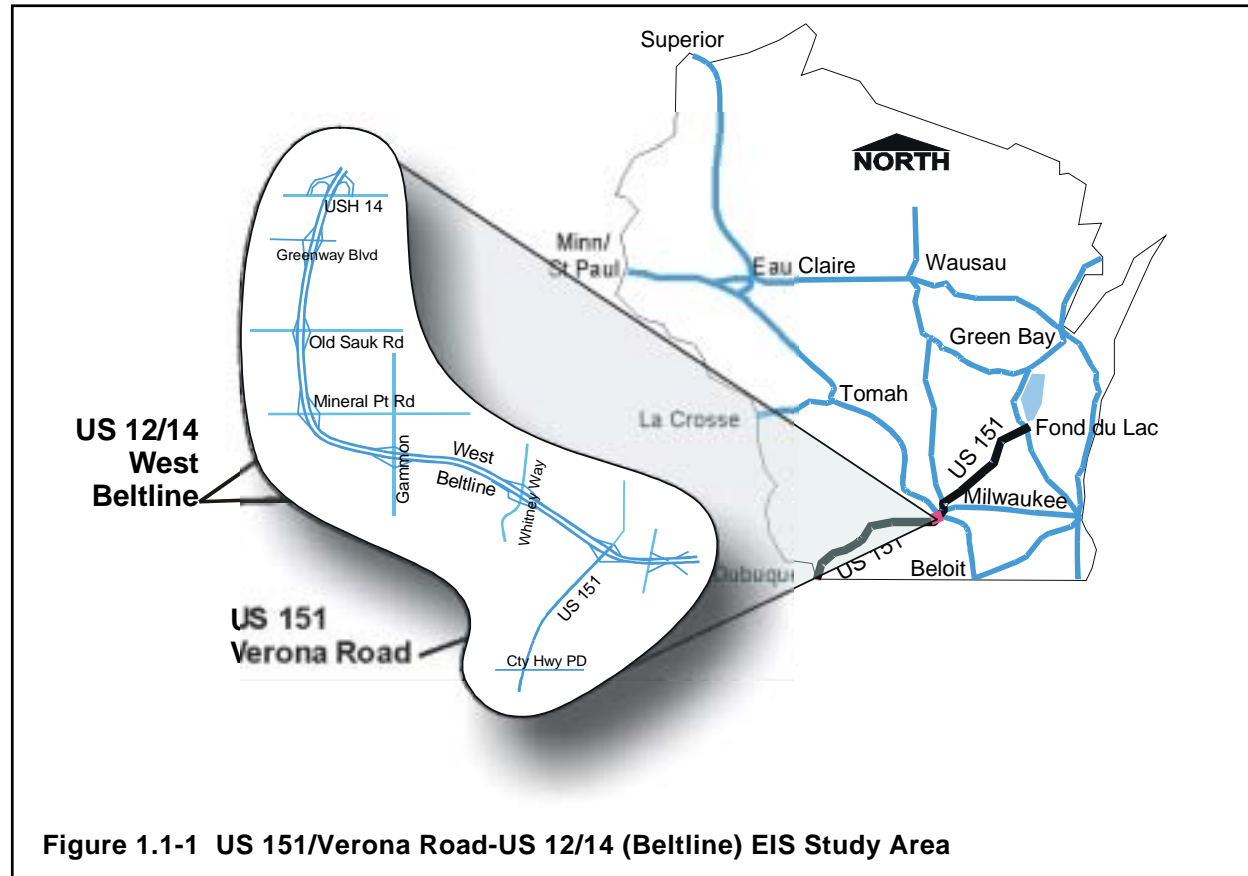


## 1 INTRODUCTION, PREPARERS, AND RECIPIENTS

### 1.1 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is planning to improve the Dane County US 151/Verona Road and US 12/14 (Beltline) corridors near Madison, Wisconsin. Figure 1.1-1 shows improvements to the US 151 corridor span from the US 12/14 interchange to County PD. US 151 alternatives being considered seek to increase the mobility and decrease the congestion for US 151 Backbone traffic and include both capacity expansion and possible freeway conversion.



This project also proposes to increase regional mobility and local connectivity for US 12/14 from the US 14 (University Avenue) interchange to the Todd Drive interchange. Alternatives being considered in this document include adding US 12/14 capacity, improving US 12/14 interchanges, and providing additional grade-separated crossings of the US 12/14.

WisDOT has coordinated with local entities in developing alternatives and in preparing this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The City Councils of both Fitchburg and Madison passed resolutions in May 2000 requesting WisDOT to start the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement Process. This request was a result of previous studies that identified corridor needs and potential long-term solutions. This prior work was a product of several advisory committees and an extensive public interaction process.